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THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (a) The maximum prices fixed by Government of India for Kattai Samba paddy, a variety of paddy which is mostly consumed in Madras State is Rs. 39·50 per quintal. Based on this, the prices of other varieties of paddy have been worked out and this Government have notified the maximum prices of paddy for different varieties which will apply to the entire Madras State. No separate rates have been fixed by the Government for Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: Sir, how many varieties of rice are available in Ramanathapurm district and what prices have been fixed for each variety?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: I have just now stated that different varieties of rice are catalogued and prices are fixed. It does not vary from district to district.

Bus signal boards

* 108 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Highways Department has been entrusted with the work of distributing bus signal boards to panchayats and municipalities; and

(b) if so, the designation of the officer-in-charge of the work?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (a) & (b) The Highways and Rural Works Department has not been specifically entrusted with the work of distributing bus signal boards to panchayats and municipalities. The municipalities and the panchayats get the required number of traffic signs from the Highways and Rural Works Department. The Divisional Engineer (Highways and Rural Works), Transport and Machinery Division, Madras, is in charge of manufacturing the traffic signs and supplies them to the municipalities and panchayats on specific requisition from these local bodies.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Is it not possible to have some stocks in the district so that the panchayats or municipalities concerned can get it easily?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: The Government have not received any complaint regarding lack of supplies.

Kanyakumari District Headquarters Hospital

* 109 Q.—SRI M. SANKARALINGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of doctors serving in the Kanyakumari District Headquarters Hospital;

(b) the number of specialists among them; and

(c) whether any separate E.N.T. and Ophthalmic Departments have been opened?

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The Hon. Srimathi JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: (a) Thirteen Medical Officers including the District Medical Officer and the Assistant District Medical Officer.

(b) One specialist in Obstetrics and Gynæcology.

(c) No, Sir.

திரு. எம். சங்கரலிங்கம் பிள்ளை: தலைவர் அவர்களே, நாகர் கோயில் தலைமை மருத்துவ மனை மாவட்ட தலைநகரிலுள்ள மருத்துவ மனையாக இருப்பதால் அங்கு காது, மூக்கு, தொண்டை, கண் ஆகியவற்றைக் கவனிக்கக்கூடிய நிபுணர்களை நியமிக்க அரசாங்கத்திற்கு உத்தேசமுண்டா?

கனம் திருமதி ஜோதி வெங்கடாசலம்: ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லா தலைநகர ஆஸ்பத்திரியிலும் தனிப்பட்ட முறையில் 'இ.என்.டி.' கிளினிக் இருக்கிறது. Ophthalmology ஏற்படுத்துவது தற்போதிருக்கிற நிலைமையில் உடனடியாக இல்லாவிட்டாலும் Phased programme ஆக நடத்த உத்தேசிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

திரு. எம். சங்கரலிங்கம் பிள்ளை: வேறு ஏதாவது மாவட்ட தலைநகரில் இந்த நிபுணர்கள் இல்லாத மருத்துவமனை உண்டா?

மிஸ்டர் சேர்மன்: கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டத்தைப் பொருத்தது தான் கேள்வி.

Kanyakumari District Headquarters Hospital

* 110 Q.—Sri M. SANKARALINGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any ambulance facility for transporting sick persons from different places to the Kanyakumari District Headquarters Hospital; and

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to introduce such ambulance facility?

The Hon. Srimathi JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: (a) No.

(b) An ambulance van is proposed to be sent to the hospital.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Well subsidies

6 Q.—Sri J. PONNUSWAMY VILLAVARAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) the basis on which well subsidies are sanctioned to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) the amount of subsidy sanctioned by the Government during 1963–64;

(c) the number of wells for which subsidies were granted during 1963–64; and

(d) whether the construction of all these wells has been completed?